# On the Scalability of the *Albany/FELIX* First-Order Stokes Approximation Ice Sheet Solver for Large-Scale Simulations of the Greenland and Antarctic Ice Sheets

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 Los Alamos, NM, USA

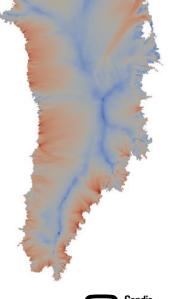
Numerical and Computational
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System Models (MSESM)

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### Outline

- Overview: the PISCEES project, the First Order (FO) Stokes model for ice sheets and the Albany/FELIX finite element solver.
- **Definitions:** Strong vs. Weak Scalability.
- Algebraic multi-grid (AMG) preconditioner based on aggressive semi-coarsening.
- Importance of node ordering and mesh partitioning.
- Strong scaling study for a fine-resolution
   Greenland Ice Sheet (GIS) problem.
- Weak scaling study for a moderate-resolution
   Antarctic Ice Sheet (AIS) problem.
- **Summary** and ongoing work.
- Questions?









"PISCEES" = Predicting Ice Sheet Climate & Evolution at Extreme Scales
5 Year Project funded by SciDAC, which began in June 2012

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\*FELIX="Finite Elements for Land Ice eXperiments"

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Ice Sheet PDEs (First Order Stokes) (stress-velocity solve)







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 Dynamical core (dycore) when coupled to codes that solve thickness and temperature evolution equations (CISM/MPAS codes).

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• Ice sheet dynamics are given by the "First-Order" Stokes PDEs: approximation\* to viscous incompressible quasi-static Stokes flow with power-law viscosity.

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (2\mu \dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_1) = -\rho g \frac{\partial s}{\partial x} \\ -\nabla \cdot (2\mu \dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_2) = -\rho g \frac{\partial s}{\partial y} \end{cases}, \text{ in } \Omega$$

• Viscosity  $\mu$  is nonlinear function given by "Glen's law":

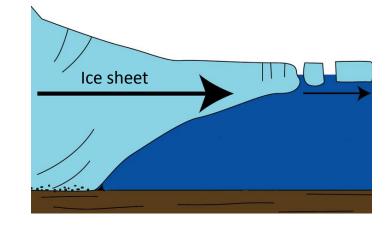
$$\mu = \frac{1}{2} A^{-\frac{1}{n}} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \dot{\epsilon}_{ij}^{2} \right)^{\left(\frac{1}{2n} - \frac{1}{2}\right)} \qquad (n = 3)$$

Relevant boundary conditions:

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_{1}^{T} = (2\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_{11} + \dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_{22}, \dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_{12}, \dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_{13})$$

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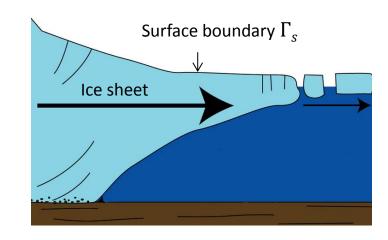
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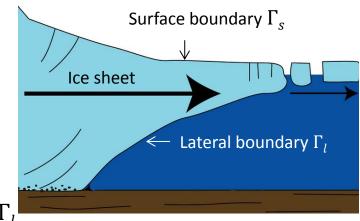
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  - Floating ice BC:

$$2\mu\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_i\cdot\boldsymbol{n} = \begin{cases} \rho gz\boldsymbol{n}, & \text{if } z > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } z \leq 0 \end{cases}$$
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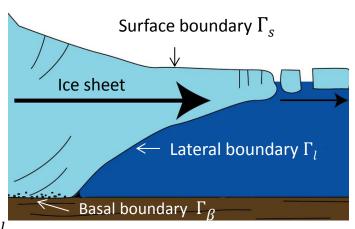
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• Basal sliding BC:  $2\mu \dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{n} + \beta \dot{u}_i = 0$ , on  $\Gamma_{\beta}$ 

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 $\beta$  = sliding coefficient  $\geq$  0

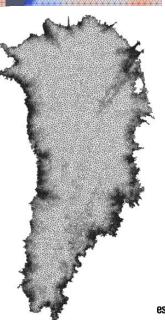


<sup>\*</sup>Assumption: aspect ratio  $\delta$  is small and normals to upper/lower surfaces are almost vertical.

## Algorithmic Choices for *Albany/FELIX*: Discretization & Meshes

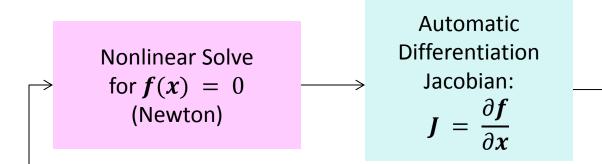
- **Discretization:** unstructured grid finite element method (FEM)
  - Can handle readily complex geometries.
  - Natural treatment of stress boundary conditions.
  - Enables regional refinement/unstructured meshes.
  - Wealth of software and algorithms.

- Meshes: can use any mesh but interested specifically in
  - **Structured hexahedral** meshes (compatible with *CISM*).
  - **Structured tetrahedral** meshes (compatible with MPAS)
  - *Unstructured Delaunay triangle* meshes with regional refinement based on gradient of surface velocity.
  - All meshes are extruded (structured) in vertical direction as tetrahedra or hexahedra.



### Algorithmic Choices for *Albany/FELIX*: Nonlinear & Linear Solver

- Nonlinear solver: full Newton with analytic (automatic differentiation) derivatives and homotopy continuation
  - Most robust and efficient for steady-state solves.
  - Jacobian available for preconditioners and matrix-vector products.
  - Analytic sensitivity analysis.
  - Analytic gradients for inversion.
- Linear solver: preconditioned iterative method
  - **Solvers:** Conjugate Gradient (CG) or GMRES
  - Preconditioners: ILU or algebraic multi-grid (AMG)



Preconditioned
Iterative Linear Solve
(CG or GMRES):
Solve Ix = r



## The *Albany/FELIX* Solver: Implementation in *Albany* using *Trilinos*

The *Albany/FELIX* First Order Stokes solver is implemented in a Sandia (open-source\*) parallel C++ finite element code called...

\*Available on github: <a href="https://github.com/gahansen/Albany">https://github.com/gahansen/Albany</a> (Salinger et al., 2015).

### "Agile Components"

Discretizations/meshes

Solver libraries

- Preconditioners
- Automatic differentiation
- Many others!
- Parameter estimation
- Uncertainty quantification
- Optimization
- Bayesian inference

Configure/build/test/documentation

Started by A. Salinger



Land Ice Physics Set (Albany/FELIX code)

Other Albany Physics Sets



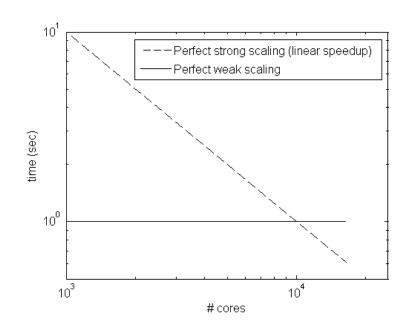
Use of **Trilinos** components has enabled the **rapid** development of the **Albany/FELIX** First Order Stokes dycore!



## Definitions: Strong vs. Weak Scaling

**Scalability** (a.k.a. **Scaling Efficiency**) = measure of the efficiency of a code when increasing numbers of parallel processing elements (CPUs, cores, processes, threads, etc.).

- **Strong scaling:** how the solution time varies with the number of cores for a fixed total problem size.
  - $\Rightarrow$  Fix problem size, increase # cores.
  - <u>Ideal:</u> linear speed-up with increase in # cores.
- Weak scaling: how the solution time varies with the number of cores for a fixed problem size per core.
  - ⇒ Increase problem size and # cores s.t. # dofs/core is approximately constant.
  - <u>Ideal:</u> solution time remains constant as problem size and # cores increases.





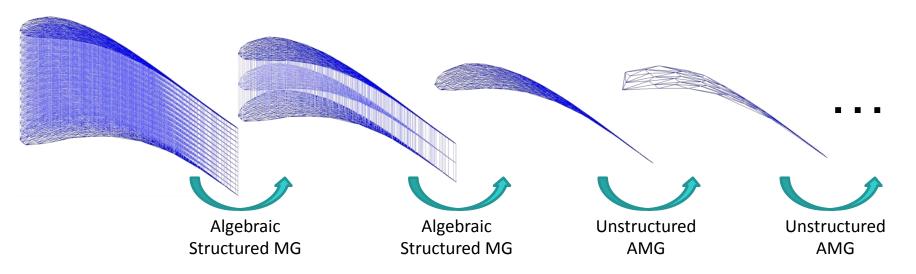
## Scalability via Algebraic Multi-Grid Preconditioning with Semi-Coarsening

Bad aspect ratios ruin classical AMG convergence rates!

- relatively small horizontal coupling terms, hard to smooth horizontal errors
- ⇒ Solvers (AMG and ILU) must take aspect ratios into account

We developed a **new AMG solver** based on aggressive **semi-coarsening** (figure below)

• Algebraic Structured MG (≡ matrix depend. MG) used with vertical line relaxation on finest levels + traditional AMG on 1 layer problem







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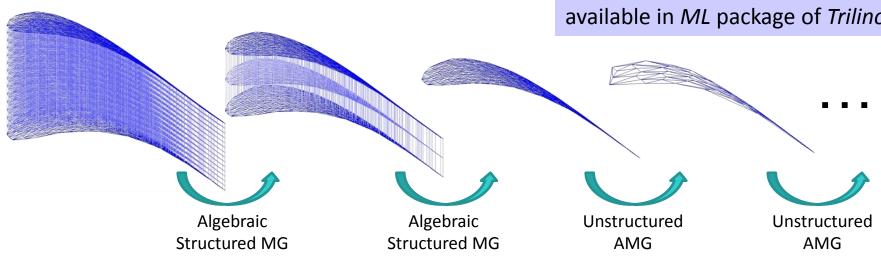


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New AMG preconditioner is available in *ML* package of *Trilinos*!



See (Tuminaro, 2014), (Tezaur et al., 2015), (Tuminaro et al., 2015).





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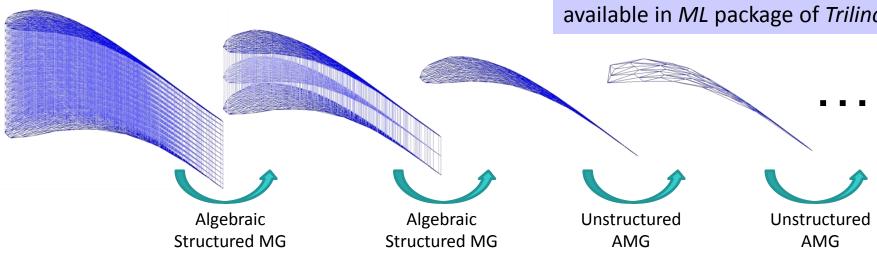


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**Scaling studies (next slides):** 

New AMG preconditioner vs. ILU

See (Tuminaro, 2014), (Tezaur *et al.,* 2015), (Tuminaro *et al.,* 2015).



## Importance of Node Ordering & Mesh Partitioning

Our studies revealed that **node ordering** and **mesh partitioning** matters for linear solver performance, especially for the ILU preconditioner!

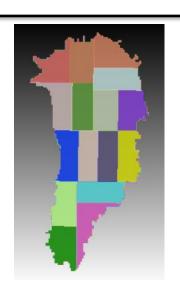
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- This is accomplished by:
  - Ensuring all points along a vertically extruded grid line reside within a single processor ("2D mesh partitioning"; top right).



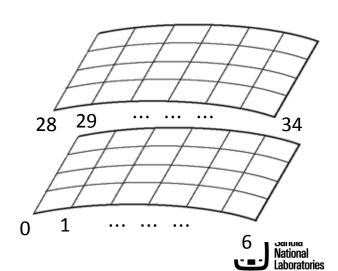


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  - Ordering the equations such that grid layer k's nodes are ordered before all dofs associated with grid layer k+1 ("row-wise ordering"; bottom right).

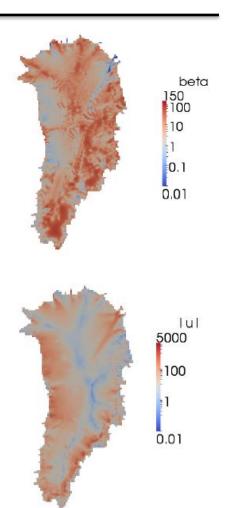






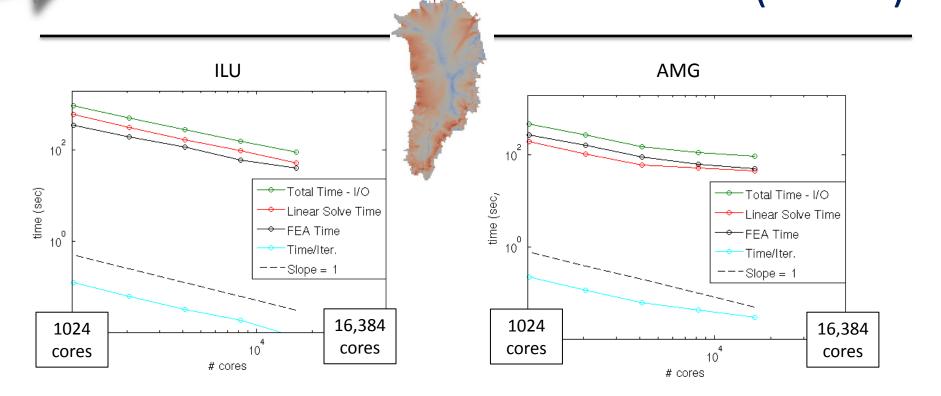
### Strong Scaling Study for a Fine-Resolution GIS Problem

- Uniform quadrilateral mesh with 1 km horizontal resolution, extruded vertically using 40 layers (69.8M hex elements, 143M dofs).
- Run on 1024→16,384 cores of Hopper (16-fold increase).
- Realistic basal friction coefficient and bed topographies calculated by solving a deterministic inversion problem that minimized modeled and observed surface velocity mismatch (Perego et al., 2014; top right).
- Realistic 3D temperature field calculated in *CISM* (Shannon *et al.*)
- **Preconditioner:** ILU vs. new AMG (with aggressive semicoarsening).
- Iterative linear solver: Conjugate Gradient (CG).





Strong Scaling Study for a Fine-Resolution GIS Problem (cont'd)

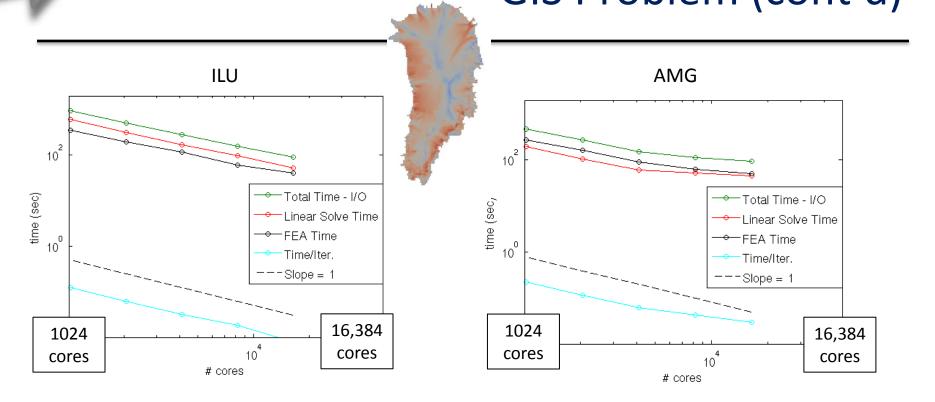


#### **1024** core run:

- AMG preconditioner solves are much faster than ILU (e.g., 194.3 sec for AMG vs. 607.9 sec for ILU).
  - Primarily due to better convergence rate obtained with AMG vs.
     ILU.



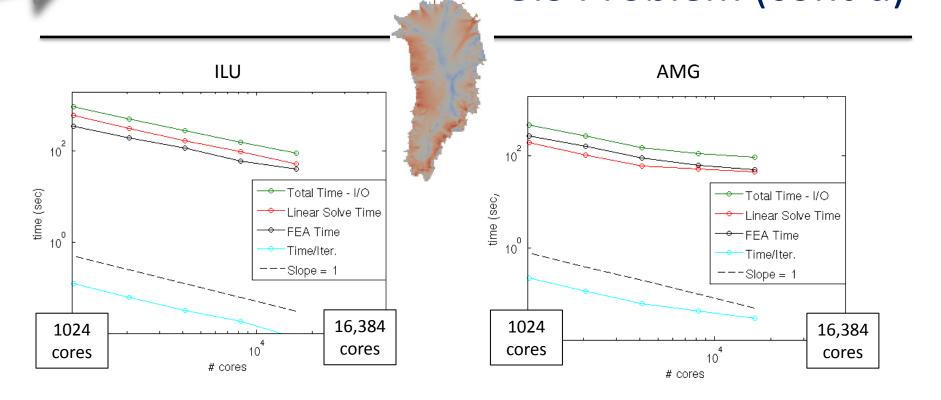
Strong Scaling Study for a Fine-Resolution GIS Problem (cont'd)



### 16,384 core run:

- ILU preconditioner fairly effective relative to AMG when # dofs/core is modest (e.g., 10K dofs/core).
  - ILU requires slightly more iterations/linear solve but cost/iteration is higher for AMG.
  - AMG solver is very inefficient when # dofs/core is small; communication costs in coarse level processing dominate.

Strong Scaling Study for a Fine-Resolution GIS Problem (cont'd)



#### **Summary:**

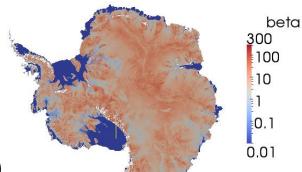
- ILU preconditioner scales better in the strong sense than AMG.
- However, ILU-preconditioned solve is slower for lower #s of cores (more dofs/core).

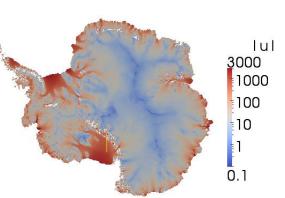




## Weak Scaling Study for a Moderate-Resolution AIS Problem

- 3 hexahedral meshes considered:
  - 8 km horizontal resolution + 5 vertical layers (2.52M dofs) → 16 cores of Hopper.
  - 4 km horizontal resolution + 10 vertical layers (18.5M dofs)  $\rightarrow$  128 cores of *Hopper*.
  - 2 km horizontal resolution + 20 vertical layers (141.5M dofs) → 1024 cores of Hopper.
- Ice sheet geometry based on BEDMAP2 (Fretwell et al., 2013) and 3D temperature field from (Pattyn, 2010)
- Realistic regularized\* basal friction coefficient and bed topographies calculated by solving a deterministic inversion problem that minimizes modeled and observed surface velocity mismatch on finest (2km) resolution geometry (Perego et al., 2014; top right).
- **Preconditioner:** ILU vs. new AMG (with aggressive semicoarsening).
- Iterative linear solver: GMRES.





\*Setting  $\beta = \delta > 0$ , with  $\delta \ll 1$  under ice shelves.

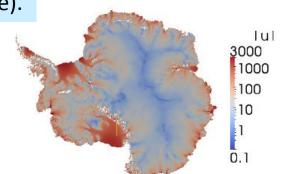
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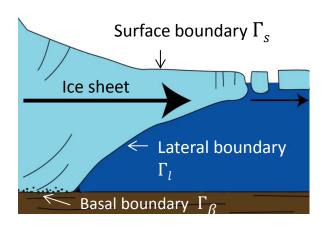
### **Antarctica is fundamentally different than Greenland:**

AIS contains large ice shelves (floating extensions of land ice).

- Along ice shelf front: open-ocean BC (Neumann).
- Along ice shelf base: zero traction BC (Neumann).
- ⇒ For vertical grid lines that lie within ice shelves, top and bottom BCs resemble Neumann BCs so sub-matrix associated with one of these lines is almost\* singular.

(vertical > horizontal coupling)
+
Neumann BCs
=
nearly singular submatrix associated with vertical lines





\*Completely singular in the presence of islands and some ice tongues.



### Weak Scaling Study for a Moderate-Resolution AIS Problem (cont'd)

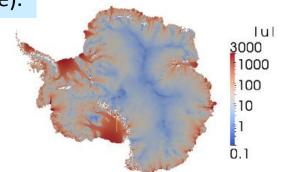
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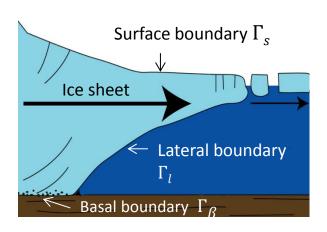
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⇒ Ice shelves give rise to severe illconditioning of linear systems!



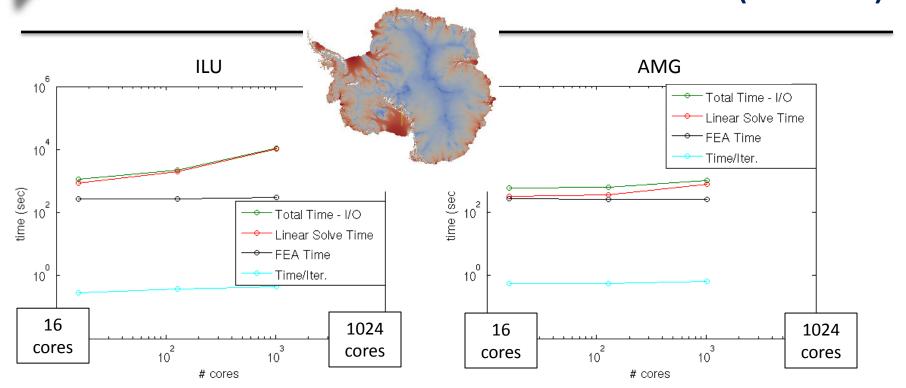


\*Completely singular in the presence of islands and some ice tongues.



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## Weak Scaling Study for a Fine-Resolution AIS Problem (cont'd)



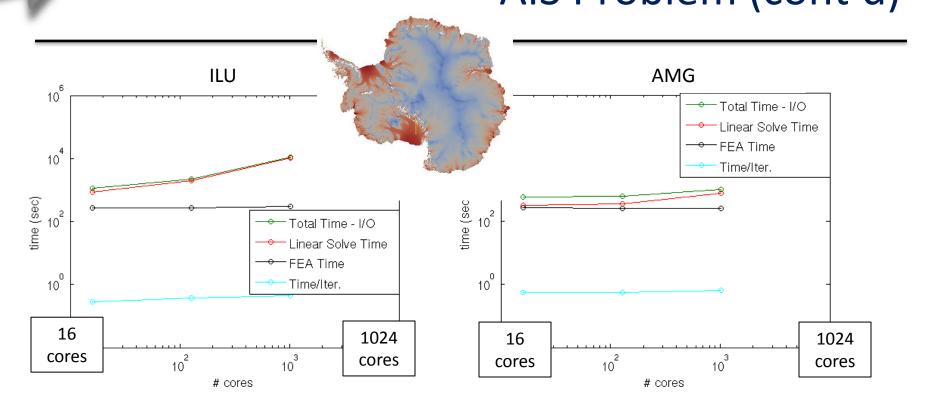
#### ILU vs. AMG:

- ILU solver >  $10 \times$  slower than AMG solver on 1024 core problem.
  - Due to extremely poor convergence of ILU solver (~700 iterations/solve) → resulting from ill-conditioning of underlying linear systems.
- AMG iterations do grow as problem refined (14.4 iterations/solve on 16 cores vs. 35.5 iterations/solve on 1024 cores), but it is better suited to linear systems associated with AIS.



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## Weak Scaling Study for a Fine-Resolution AIS Problem (cont'd)



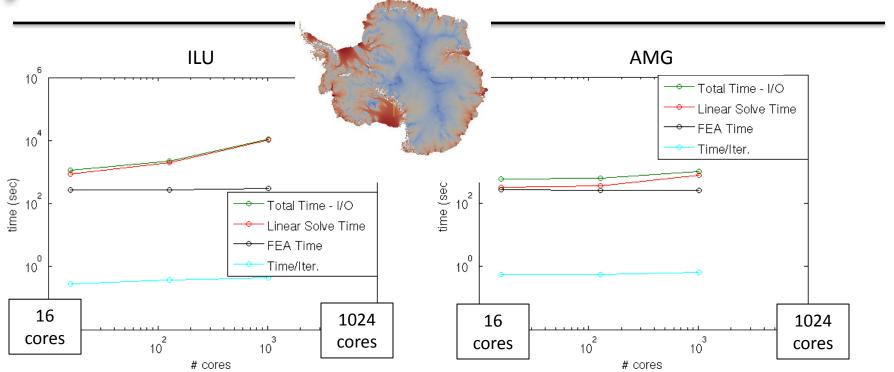
#### GMRES vs. CG:

- GMRES solver found to be more effective than CG, even though problem is symmetric.
  - We believe GMRES is somewhat less sensitive to rounding errors associated with the severe ill-conditioning induced by the presence of ice shelves.
  - GMRES and CG minimize different norms.



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## Weak Scaling Study for a Fine-Resolution AIS Problem (cont'd)



### **Summary:**

- Severe ill-conditioning caused by ice shelves!
- GMRES less sensitive than CG to rounding errors from illconditioning [also minimizes different norm].
- AMG preconditioner less sensitive than ILU to ill-conditioning.

(vertical > horizontal coupling)
+
Neumann BCs
=
nearly singular submatrix associated with vertical lines

### **Summary and Ongoing Work**

#### **Summary:**

- This talk described the development of a finite element land ice solver known as Albany/FELIX written using the libraries of the Trilinos libraries.
- Strong and weak scaling studies on GIS and AIS problems revealed good overall scalability can be achieved by using a new AMG preconditioner based on aggressive semi-coarsening.
  - **I. Tezaur**, R. Tuminaro, M. Perego, A. Salinger, S. Price. "On the scalability of the *Albany/FELIX* first-order Stokes approximation ice sheet solver for large-scale simulations of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets", *MSESM/ICCS*, Reykjavik, Iceland (June 2015).

### **Ongoing/future work:**

- Dynamic simulations of ice evolution using CISM-Albany and MPAS-Albany.
- Deterministic and stochastic initialization runs.
- Porting of code to new architecture supercomputers.
- Journal article on AMG preconditioner in preparation for SISC (Tuminaro et. al, 2015)
- Delivering code to climate community and coupling to earth system models.



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Trilinos/DAKOTA collaborators: E. Phipps, M. Eldred, J. Jakeman, L. Swiler.

Thank you! Questions?



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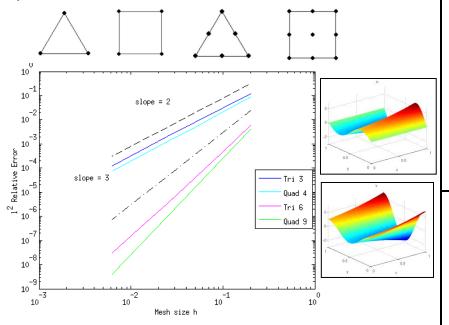
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### Appendix: Verification/Mesh Convergence Studies

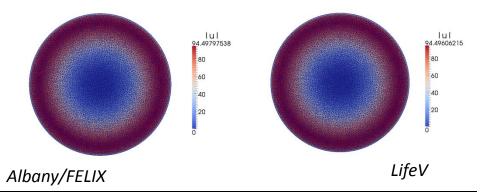
**Stage 1:** solution verification on 2D MMS problems we derived.

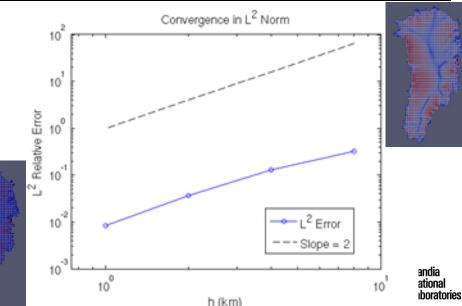


**Stage 3:** full 3D mesh convergence study on Greenland w.r.t. reference solution.

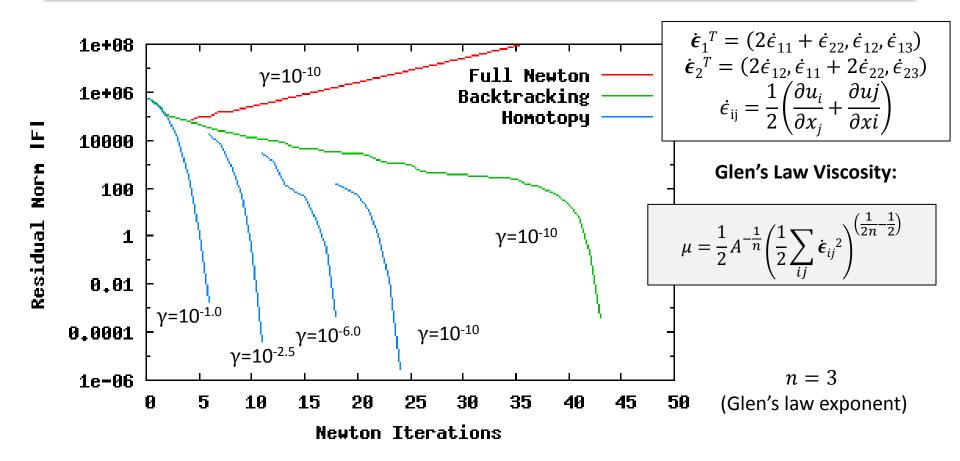
Are the Greenland problems resolved? Is theoretical convergence rate achieved?

**Stage 2:** code-to-code comparisons on canonical ice sheet problems.



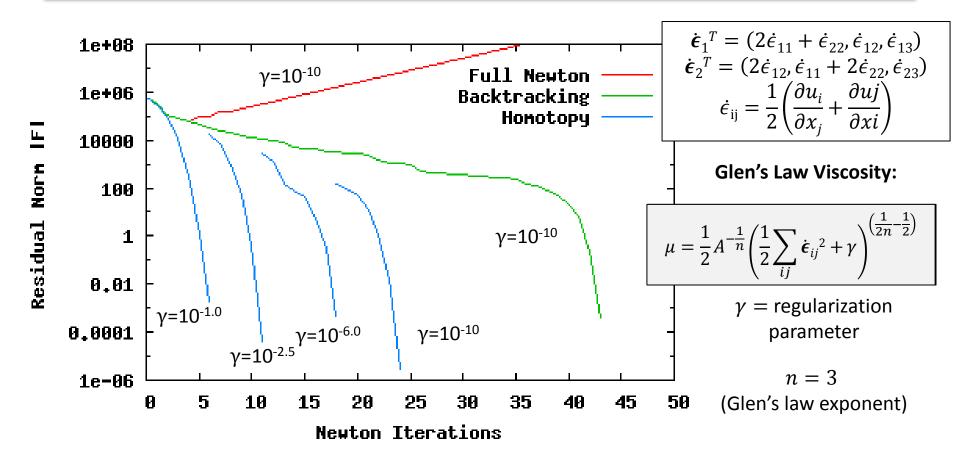


## Appendix: Robustness of Newton's Method via Homotopy Continuation (LOCA)



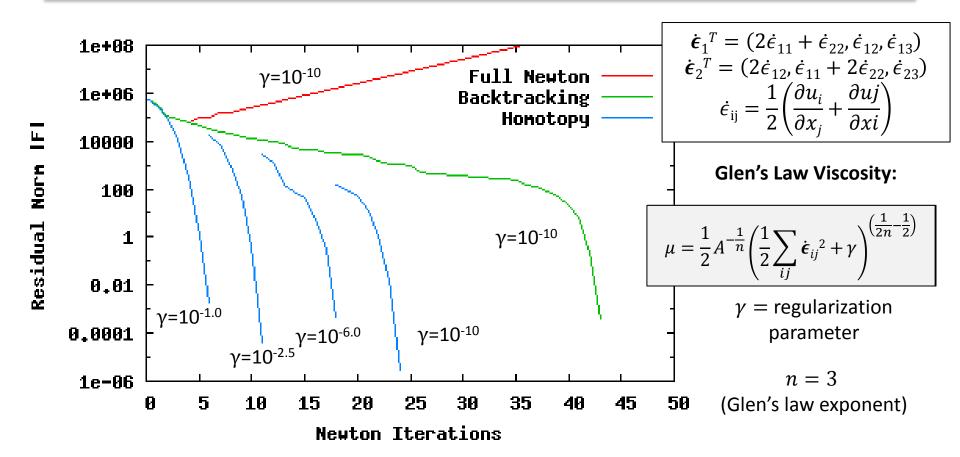


## Appendix: Robustness of Newton's Method via Homotopy Continuation (LOCA)





## Appendix: Robustness of Newton's Method via Homotopy Continuation (LOCA)



• Newton's method most robust with full step + homotopy continuation of  $\gamma \to 10^{-10}$ : converges out-of-the-box!

